



M E D I A R E L E A S E

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH &
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Lakeshore Mental Health Institute Welcomes Southern States Psychiatric Hospital Association Conference

NASHVILLE— The Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities and Lakeshore Mental Health Institute are hosting the 2008 Southern States Psychiatric Hospital Association Conference April 23-25 at the Knoxville Downtown Hilton.

The Southern State Psychiatric Hospital Association assists member state hospitals to carry out their mission more effectively in the mental health system by addressing issues involving treatment, administration, standards and systems. SSPHA is comprised of 12 states and has 65 member hospitals.

"These conferences offer an excellent opportunity for professionals in state psychiatric hospitals to network with colleagues from the southern states and discuss issues that are unique to us," commented Lee Thomas, CEO of Lakeshore Mental Health Institute and SSPHA Vice President. "I am excited that Knoxville was chosen as the location for this year's conference. It will give us a chance to show-off some of the innovative mental health services that Tennessee has to offer."

TDMHDD Commissioner Virginia Trotter Betts will speak on Wednesday, April 23rd, along with Bob Glover, Executive Director of the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors and Dr. Thomas Bornemann with the Carter Center in Atlanta.

For more information on the conference please visit www.sspha.com. For additional mental health or substance abuse information, please contact TDMHDD's Office of Communications at (615) 253-4812 or visit www.state.tn.us/mental.

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